

Salutem in Christo.

Good men and euill delite in contrarie
Tyes. The good in seeking for truth,
and maintenance therof: Euill, in
hiding of Truth, and oppressing therof:
And so consequently to publish Truth, is
to please the good, and to displease the euil.
Wherefore, hearing þat amongst the comon
sortes of men at this time: it is not certainly
known what is the cause that þat Duke
of Norffolke is newly committed to þat Towre
and sundrie others: And knowynge that
good men wil be wel satisfied to vnderstand
the truth, which euyl men wold couer and
oppress: I could not but in conscience to
satisfie the good, and brydle or stop the lyeng
and open sclanderous mouthes of the euil
and seditious, notifie thus much to you,
wherby you maye also communicate þat same
to others, for that it is likely that false and
sclanderous repertes wil be readily made
hereof to serue the appetites of the euill
disposed.

First, it is not vnknowen that the Duke
of Norffolke did of late yeares secretly pra-
cise to haue married wth the Scottissh quene
without the knowledge of the Quenes
Maiesie our Soueraigne Lady.

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It is not also vnknowne y^e the said Scott-
tish Quene hath ben the moste dangerous
ennemy against the Quenes Maiestie our
Souveraigne Lady, that liued, in that she
sought to haue the Crowne of England frō
her Maiestie, immediatly after Quene
Maryes death.

It is also well knowne that whan she
could not get it, neither by force nor con-
nyng, she solemnly promised to acknow-
ledge her error, and to recognise the very
true right to be iustly in the Quenes Ma-
iestie our Soueraigne Ladye to whom the
same belongeth, as lawfull Daughte and
Heire to kinge Henry the eight her Father
and so also by the Lawes of y^e Realme per-
fectly established, to succede king Edward
the sixte her Brother, and Quene Marye
her Elder Sister, and by the Homage of
all her Nobles, Prelates, and People as
duly acknowledged at her Coronation, as
euer any kyng of England was in any for-
mer tyme: And in very dede, as worthy a
Prince for this Realme for her Clemencie
and goodnes in gouernmēt as euer reigned

It is also knowne y^e the Scottish Quene
hath not yet performed her promise, but
with fryuolous answeres hath delayed it,
Further

neither is it of any force to be demaunded,
or worth the haupng, if she would yelde to
performe it. For neither can she nor could
not gette this Realme when she sought it
wrongfully, nor keepe her owne when she
had it quietly, amende the Quenes Maie-
ties estate: which is fully perfect: nor yet
is any thng that she should promise, to be
holden firme and durable: but as time shall
giue her cause to keepe it or breake it.

It is also said and credibly abowed that
the Scottissh Quene, was the greatest cause
of the Rebellion lately in the North, wher
by some noble houses that had serued this
Realme, partly by them selues, & speciallly
by their Ancestors valiantlye against the
Scottes, were now by connyng practise of
this Scottissh Ladye beyng deprived of her
Kingdome, inticed to ouer throw them sel-
ues and their Houses, with a multitude of
more English Subiectes than she coulde
haue don by Armes in the field, yf she had
bene in possession of her Kingdome.

It is also knowne, notwithstanding
this, that the Quenes Maestie,
beyng voyde of a reuenginge Nature,
(as in all Ages hath so appeared that
some sorts of wyse men haue noted

it a faulte for a Prince) did labour to haue
restored her to her Countrey (as in deede
the Quænes Maiestie was the cause of sa-
uinge of her lyfe, after the murder of her
husband) with composition betwixt her and
her sonne the kyng, and y^e States & people
of that Realme, therby to put som good end
to the Ciuill warres in the same.

It is also knowen, that the Quæne of
Scottes did vpon the first apprehension of
the Duke of Norfolke by wytynges to the
Quænes Maiestie, bitterly renounce the
Duke of Norfolke and his Warpage, with
some Poate that she did not of her selfe first
moue it, nor yet lyke it. And so did the
Duke him self, after his first apprehension:
by many messages, and by special wyting
directed to the Quænes Maiestie, humbly
and penitentlye acknowledge his offence
in seeking to marry wth the Scottish Quæne,
and did firmly vnder his hand and Seale
promyse neuer to deale therein any further,
or in any other matter with that Quæne.

And now it is certainly founde, that the
former practise betwixte that Quæne and
the Duke, notwithstanding their seuerall
renunciations and firme promises to the
contrarye, hath had continuance without
interrupt

interruption by secret meanes of sūdy ent
parsons, both all the tyme that the Duke
was first in Prison in the Tower: and also
euer since, whan he was committed to his
owne House, vntill he was nowe newlye
committed to the Tower.

But how dangerous soeuer this attempt
may be iudged in them to cōtinue the secret
practise and intention to marry agaynst the
Quēnes Maiesties wyll, and the expecta-
cion of all that be knowne duetyfull Sub-
iectes to her Maiestie, and true friendes to
the Duke: That maye best appere by the
daungerous practises that haue accompa-
nied and folowed this attempte, which Al-
mighty God hath maruelously discovered,
to the safety of her Maiesties person & pre-
seruation of the Realme.

It was devised & determyned that a new
Rebellion should be moued nere London.
The Cittie should be taken by force and
possessed: In the meane time, a number of
strangers men of warre, should be brought
by Sea from the low Countreys beyond
the Seas, to a notable Port of this Realme
meete for the purpose, and so both forces of
ennemies and Rebelles should ioyne, and
than proceede to further thynges than is
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expedient (as I heare) to be spoken off at this tyme.

The deuises were not onely talked off, put in writinge, and fully concluded, but the Messengers were also sent ouer Sea in Lent last, with sufficient Authoritie of commission and warringes to testifie the determination of them that should be the heades and conductors of this Rebellion; as the same beyng imparted on the other side the Sea, was wel excepted & allowed: and therof seuerall Letters were speedilye written to the sayd Queene, & to the Duke of Norfolke, & specially to that vngacious Priest named the Bishopp of Ross (the Instrument of all the Dukes calamitie, and the Hede man of all Treasons against this Realme) that this enterprise must be kept secret, and namely from the French, for certayne respects not of small moment, as is sayd, vntill the Messenger should post to Rome to the Pope for money, & to the King of Spayne for order and direction for men and Ships. The Messenger had his Letters of Credit from the Scottissh Queene, the Duke, and others to the Pope, and the Kinge of Spayne. And so commyng to Rome: he retourned Letters from the Popes gracious hollynes in the beginning of May to the said Queene, and to the Duke
and

and others. The Letter to the Duke was in Latin, beginning, Dilecte fili, Salutem. But in dede the Duke might well saye he sent not Salutem but perniciem. The Duke had them, and red them by the intercession of that aforesaid vngracious Priest. The contentes in som parte were, that the Pope well ally wed of the enterpryse: He would write also to the king of Spayne to further it, but his present busynes of the chargeable Warres than in preparyng against the Turke, was the cause that Money could not then be had for that Sommer: And yet his vngracious Holynes after his accustomed sorte comforted them all not to dispaire: So it appeareth that God yet ordeyned him eyther to be so zelous against the Turke, whiche surely was a good acte, or els his Holynesse Cooffers are not now a dayes so full of Money as his Bulles are of Thunderclappes, so as the lack of money at that time happely stayd the prosecution to full effect of this dangerous treason: And so it is to be hoaped that by the same goodnesse of God, the mischiefe hereafter ment shall be diuerted.

It was also by the deuisors of these rebellions & inuasions determined y the Realme of Irelande should be assayled at the same tyme

tyme therby to weaken the Quēnes Ma-
iesties Forces, or to diuert them from De-
fence of herselfe and her good Subiectes.

Now her it best to leaue w these former
Branches, for it is credibly said, that this
Tree of Treason & Rebellion hath a num-
ber of other Branches of the very lyke na-
ture: That is, in deuysinge how the Scot-
tish Quēne should haue ben conueyed a-
waye, somtyme by disguising, somtyme by
playne force, and raising of Rebellion: and
so put to lybertie, and proclaymed Quēne
of England and Scotland: but to encrease
the erroꝝ of her Style: she should haue ben
proclaymed Kyng and Quēne of England
and Scotlande . It might be also repor-
ted how her Sonne should haue ben stolne
out of Scotlande, to be sent into Spayne,
with suche lyke deuysies tendyng to moue
troubles in the Kealme, that was and yet
is (thanked be God) quiet .

And now it may be that some wll saye,
that many of these thinges are doubtfull,
and percase weaisted in reporte , eyther by
malpce, or by ouermuch credulitie : But
truelye in suche credible soꝛte are all the
thynges aboue mentioned, with sundrye
others to mā reported to be verye true by
suche

suche as haue cause to know them and, vse
not to reporte vntrouthes, as I doe boundly
a vow them to be true. And yf they shall be
found otherwise, then it is lykely that some
of the Quænes Maiesties Counsell wyl
cause them to be reprehended, who vpon
this my wrytynge shall reporte them, and
therevpon I wyl patiently suffer corre-
ction for my hasty Credit: for it is moste
lykely that such matters of estate as these
are, wyl not be suffered to be communica-
ted wout reprehencion. On the other side,
yf they be true, as I haue reported, and yet
not fully ynough reported, than tyme wyl
shortly enlarge and confirme them, when
her Maiestie shal cause the parties now im-
prisoned to answer openly therto, by or-
der of her Lawes, as there is no doubt but
she wyl obserue to all maner of Subiectes
that course as hether to manifestly & graci-
ously she hath don, and so God longe keepe
her vnder his speciall protection, as hither-
to he hath miraculously, to raygne ouer vs
in peace.

Since I wrote this, I am y more bolde-
ned to think all these thynges true, for that
this present daye the Lorde Maior of this
Cittie of London with a number of his Bre-
thren were at the Starre Chamber with
the

the Quenes Maiesties Counsell, where
vnderstande by report of some of them that
hard what was said by the Counsel to them
concernyng the present case of the Duke of
Norfolke that the substance of all that is
by me befoze reported, is verpe true, with
much more.

At London the. xij. of October. 1571.

Your louyng Brother in
Lawe. R. G.

